

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus comprising:

a bus for which a band-guaranteed cycle capable of transferring stream data in real time by assigning a predetermined reserved band for each cycle time, is defined, the bus including a signal line which indicates a completion of a current data transfer cycle on the bus;

a plurality of nodes connected to said bus and capable of transmitting/receiving stream data using the band-guaranteed cycle, the plurality nodes being connected to the signal line in a wired OR fashion; and

means for executing a multi-cast transfer of stream data from a sender node to a plurality of receiver nodes using the band-guaranteed cycle, the sender node including a unit configured to stop the multi-cast transfer when the signal line is driven into an active state; and

means for detecting that any of the plurality of receiver nodes drives a signal line in the bus, which indicates a completion of a data transfer cycle; and

means for stopping the multi-cast transfer upon detection of said detecting means].

2. (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein one of a pull-down load circuit and a pull-up load circuit is connected to the signal line, and each of the receiver nodes includes an output buffer connected to the signal line to drive the signal line into the active state.

3. (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising acceleration means for driving the signal line into an inactive state for a predetermined time period after the signal line is driven into the active state by the receiver node in order to accelerate a shift of the signal line to the inactive state.

4. (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the plurality of nodes include a manager node for controlling said multi-cast transfer, and the manager node comprises said acceleration means.

5. (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of nodes includes:

drive means for driving the signal line into the active state for a predetermined time period when an amount of data stored in a receiving buffer for receiving stream data transferred by the multi-cast transfer, exceeds a given value, and driving the signal line into an inactive state after the predetermined time period has elapsed; and

means for monitoring a state of the signal line and inhibiting the drive means from driving the signal line when detecting that the signal line is driven into the active state by another node.

6. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus comprising:

a bus for which a band-guaranteed cycle capable of transferring stream data in real time by assigning a predetermined reserved band for each cycle time, is defined, the bus including a signal line which indicates a completion of a current data transfer cycle on the bus;

a plurality of nodes connected to said bus and capable of transmitting/receiving stream data using the band-guaranteed cycle, the plurality of nodes being connected to the signal line in a wired OR fashion; and

means for executing a multi-cast transfer of the stream data from a sender node to a plurality of receiver nodes using the band-guaranteed cycle by assigning one of plurality of channel number to the sender node and the plurality of receiver nodes, the sender node including a unit configured to stop the multi-cast transfer when the signal line is driven into an active state, [and

means for stopping the multi-cast transfer, when a signal line in the bus, which indicates a completion of a data transfer cycle, is driven into an active state by any of the plurality of receiver nodes,]

wherein each of the plurality of nodes includes:

drive means for driving the signal line into the active state for a predetermined time period when an amount of data stored in a receiving buffer for receiving stream data transferred by the multi-cast transfer, exceeds a given value, and driving the signal line in an inactive state after the predetermined time period has elapsed; and

means for monitoring a state of the signal line and inhibiting the drive means from driving the signal line when detecting that the signal line is driven into the active state by another node.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)